

Learning the Japanese Language in a Home with a Mixed-culture Family

– Studying the exchange and translations of the journals of and by
a mother and child from another country, as supervised by a
Japanese father –

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The purpose of this research is to help improve skill in the Japanese language, as well as to develop methods for learning the Japanese language that can be performed together by a single family. Exchanging and translating the journals of and by the mother and child is the primary method of this research. In addition, for this research, the Japanese father assists or supervises the translation into Japanese. The level of assistance provided by the father and the scores of Japanese Language Proficiency Test Level 4 are analyzed. Further, the verbatim record of and by the researcher and the participants is used as evidence for developing the research methods. The duration of the study was from March 11, 2011 to December 29, 2011. Through the implementation of this study, the researcher expected to see an improvement in the performance of the subjects' vocabulary and grammar. As a result, especially in the child, the father's assistance was reduced. Further, in the Japanese Language Proficiency Test Level 4, the child's grammar score was greatly increased. This suggested that the participant's writing ability was improved. In addition, the use of translation tools increased the opportunities for the participants to use their own language. In the future, interventions to increase the opportunities for speaking the language of the country of residence will be preferable.